AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A virtual private communications network (VPCN) comprising:

a communications server;

at least one communications trunk connecting said communications server to a public telephone network;

a remotely connected device communicating with said communications server, said remotely connected device acting as a locally connected digital telephone; and

a remote telephone located in the vicinity of said remotely connected device, telephonic communications being provided to and from said remote telephone in cooperation with said communications server and controlled by said remotely connected device.

2. (original) A VPCN as in Claim 1 further comprising:

a plurality of digital telephones connected to said communications server.

3. (original) A VPCN as in Claim 1 wherein said remotely connected device is a web enabled device connected over the Internet, said VPCN further comprising:

a web server connected to said communications server and the Internet.

4. (original) A VPCN as in Claim 3 wherein said web enabled device is a personal computer (PC).

5. (original) A VPCN as in Claim 4 wherein said PC includes a modem connecting said PC to the Internet.

6. (original) A VPCN as in Claim 1 wherein said communications server is a PBX server.

7. (original) A VPCN as in Claim 1 wherein said remotely connected device is a wireless access protocol (WAP) device connected over the Internet.

8. (original) A VPCN as in Claim 7 wherein said WAP is a personal digital assistant (PDA) with a wireless connection to the Internet.

9. (currently amended) A virtual private communications network (VPCN) comprising:

a communications server;

a web server connected to said communications server and the Internet;

a plurality of digital telephones connected to said communications server;

at least one communications trunk connecting said communications server to a public telephone network;

a plurality of remotely connected web enabled devices communicating with said communications server, said remotely connected devices each acting as a locally connected digital telephone; and

a remote telephone located in the vicinity of each of said remotely connected web enabled devices, telephonic communications being provided to said digital telephones from remote telephones in cooperation with said communications server and simultaneously controlled by said remotely connected web enabled devices.

10. (original) A VPCN as in Claim 9 wherein at least one web enabled device is a personal computer (PC).

11. (original) A VPCN as in Claim 10 wherein at least one PC includes a modem connecting to the Internet, said at least one PC being connected to the web server over the Internet.

12. (original) A VPCN as in Claim 9 wherein said communications server is a PBX server.

13. (original) A VPCN as in Claim 9 wherein at least one remotely connected device is a wireless access protocol (WAP) device connected over the Internet.

14. (original) A VPCN as in Claim 13 wherein said WAP is a personal digital assistant (PDA) with a wireless connection to the Internet.

15. (original) A method for communicating with a private communications network, said method comprising the steps of:

a) connecting a remotely located web enabled device to a communications server; and

b) initiating calls at the communications server from and to a remote telephone in the vicinity of said remotely located web enabled device, said remotely located web enabled device initiating and controlling said calls.

16. (currently amended) A method as in Claim 15 wherein the step (a) of connecting the remotely located web enabled device comprises the steps of:

i) calling an Internet service provider;

ii) negotiating a modem connection with said Internet service provider; and

iii) connecting to a web server connected to said communications server, calls to said remote telephone being controlled by said web enabled device in real time.